

Towards a participative, inclusive and sustainable management of the forest landscape complex of Outamba-Kilimi (Sierra Leone), Kuru Hills (Sierra Leone) and Pinselli-Soya (Guinea) – PAP4 OKKPS.

WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION



Project manager for European Union OKKPS project in Sierra Leone and Guinea

Intended start date: 1 SEPTEMBER 2021.

Base: Sierra Leone, Freetown and missions to the regions, countries targeted by the project.

Duration of the contract: 1 year renewable.

BACKGROUND:

Created in 2000, the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation's (WCF) mission is to enhance the survival of the remaining wild chimpanzee populations and their habitat, thereby participate in saving the behavioural diversity of this fascinating species.

WCF implements conservation projects in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Guinea, and we concentrate our activities in regions where wild chimpanzees are still abundant to ensure their future survival. In Guinea, WCF, working in support of the government bodies, through the Office Guinéen des Parcs et Réserves (OGPR), has since 2015 initiated a project to create a National Park along the Bafing River, in the natural regions of the Fouta-Djalon and Upper Guinea. The Park has been officially created the 4th of May 2021 by the President of the Guinean Republic.

Several other Protected Areas are also supported by the WCF in Guinea, and recently in Sierra Leone, with a new project fund by the European Union (EU, PAPFor Program), with our strong partner in the country Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS).

Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS) was founded in 1995 by Bala Amarasekaran together with the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL). Everything TCS does starts with the chimps and transitions into wildlife conservation, research, climate change mitigation, advocacy, law enforcement, youth and women empowerment, community outreach, eco-tourism, environmental education and livelihood support initiatives. As a result, TCS has emerged as a globally recognized conservation model which provides a source of learning and inspiration for sanctuaries across Africa and worldwide.

In order to develop and coordinate the operational management of the forest landscape complex of Outamba-Kilimi (Sierra Leone), Kuru Hills (Sierra Leone) and Pinselli-Soya (Guinea), in short OKKPS priority conservation landscape, WCF is recruiting a dynamic Project Manager in accordance with the funding obtained from the EU, and the mandate given to WCF by the Government of the Republic of Guinea, and by the Government of Sierra Leone for the project's co-applicant, and our project's partner Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS).

The Project Manager will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the project, in particular the management of personnel, operational procedures, equipment and the monitoring of funding necessary for the implementation of the Annual Work Plans and other planning.

The Project Manager will ensure with the rest of the WCF management in Guinea, Regional Protected Areas Supervisor, and under the supervision of the Guinean Operations Manager, in close

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collaboration with TCS management team, the principles of responsibility in the operational and financial management of the project. He/she will assist them with the overall coordination between each sites targeted, including internal and external report writing, grant reporting, proposal preparation and support for various departments with technical and administrative tasks where required.

Its first responsibility will be to ensure the launch and development of the first operations of the project, and in particular the establishment of the management unit and the financial and administrative management modalities, the application of the WCF Procedures in accordance with those required by the donor (EU) and the law in force in Sierra Leone, the implementation of the Annual Work Plan 2021, and the respect of the contractual commitments (funding, Partnership Agreement, etc.).

MAIN ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Coordination

- Put in place the project management and planning tools, integrating the plans of each of the Protected Areas, notably the Work Annual Plans, the annual budgets, the Internal Regulations, the Development and Management Plan, etc.
- Implement the Annual Work Plans and annual budgets.
- Implement standard policies for Finance, Logistics, Protection & Security, Communication, etc., monitoring and evaluation procedures (weekly reports, monthly newsletter, database, etc.) and technical and financial reporting.
- Ensure the recruitment of priority posts and Management Unit staff.
- Manage the staff, in particular the daily organisation of work, rotations, rest and holidays, annual performance evaluation, etc.
- Coordinate the development of strategic and/or sectoral plans (long-term strategy, Anti-Poaching, Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research Plan, Species Specific Action Plans, Community Development Plan, Operations Management Plan, etc.).
- Supervise the protection and security operations of the sites, with the designated Authorities, in order to reduce the impact of threats, in particular poaching.
- Coordinate the rehabilitation of the Outamba National Park Headquarter and the strengthening of the logistical and working capacities of the various operational teams in each site.
- Initiate the rehabilitation of infrastructure and acquire priority equipment.
- Provide strategic thinking and recommendations on OKKPS landscape management and development priorities, long-term strategy, planning for growth stages.
- Provide a watch on the evolutions of the context (legislation, land use planning projects, political, regional, etc.) that may have an impact on the management of the landscape. And to participate in the revision of the documents if necessary.
- Assist the WCF's Regional Supervisor of Protected Areas and Guinean Director of Operation with various tasks including reporting, tendering or others to ensure the continuity of operations.

Governance & Relations with partners

- Act in close collaboration and partnership with the co-applicant TCS.
- Ensure compliance with the provisions and commitments of the WCF-EU contract as well as the specific partnership agreements for each of the partner structures in the countries considered.
- Develop and maintain positive and trusting relationships with institutional, technical, and financial partners and stakeholders of the Landscape, including local communities and decentralized government services.

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- Establish a framework for dialogue with local communities and build trust to guide the community development efforts of the landscape.
- Ensure WCF and TCS representation in governance bodies and the presentation of the management results obtained.
- Supervise the activities of the technical partners at the various sites targeted by the project.
- Identify and implement synergies with technical partners to meet the conservation objectives of the project sites.
- Implement the decisions of the project management governance bodies.

Fundraising and communication

- Lead the coordination and development of competitively strong proposals and concept notes in coordination with the fundraising team at the WCF's Headquarter and the WCF's Regional Supervisor and TCS's Development Manager;
- Work collaboratively with wider funding team to help identify and plan strategies to position WCF with potential partners and donors.
- Oversees the creation of necessary promotion materials across multiple platforms, including, but not limited to presentations, social content, video, photography, website content, email, external reports, and press releases.
- Contribute to the visibility and image of the project, the WCF and its partner in Sierra Leone TCS, through communication actions at local, regional and national levels.
- Assist with communication, organization, and coordination of workshops, meetings and events as needed.

Expected outcomes

- The Protected Areas monitored by the project are functional thanks to a Management Unit established in Guinea and Sierra Leone comprising priority management positions and qualified and motivated personnel on each of the sites, infrastructure and equipment allowing for efficient management of operations.
- The ecological integrity of these Protected Areas is improved thanks to a significant decrease in the level of pressures (and in particular poaching, logging and illegal fishing) and allowing the restoration of animal populations and the stabilization of habitats.
- The Protected Areas have management and planning tools, governance bodies are functional and a local consultation framework allows for healthy and constructive relations with stakeholders including local communities.
- Transboundary management of the OKKPS Landscape is promoted and strengthened through robust and sustainable bodies and procedures.
- The portfolio of operations and funding increases to meet the management needs and conservation challenges of the Protected Areas of the Landscape.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The Project Manager will report to the WCF Operations Manager in Guinea, and to his/her counterpart at TCS with Heads of Department in preparing interim, final and other required reports, including working together with M&E team as required.

The Project Manager will analyse grant progress, assist proper budget follow-up, analysis, projections and budget realignments where needed. At least one monthly meeting will be held on the progress of the objectives, and one formal evaluation will be conducted per year on the work accomplished and the perspectives to come. This evaluation will be done by the management team of WCF in Guinea and the European office of the Foundation, as well as the management of TCS in Sierra Leone.

Experiences and skills

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- At least 8 years of professional experience in protected area management or similar;
- At least 10 years of professional experience in Africa, including West and Anglophone Africa. Experience in Sierra Leone and Guinea will be an important asset;
- At least 4 years of experience in managing EU-funded projects;
- Proven skills in managing and working with multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural teams, involving partners in two countries;
- Proven skills in logistics, operations management, procedures and administration;
- Proven skills in partnership management and relations with local authorities;
- Ability to adapt, to live in isolated conditions and to be autonomous is essential;
- Ability to make proposals and to take initiative;
- Excellent command of French and English.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

- WCF Regional Supervisor of Protected Areas
- WCF Guinean Director of Operations
- TCS Development Manager
- WCF and TCS Guinean and Sierra Leone Heads of Department
- WCF and TCS Guinean and Sierra Leone Human Resources Manager
- WCF and TCS Guinean and Sierra Leone Head of Finance
- WCF and TCS Guinean and Sierra Leone Logistics & Procurement Manager
- WCF and TCS Guinean and Sierra Leone Monitoring and Evaluation officer
- WCF Regional Supervisor of Research and Science
- Head Quarter WCF and TCS Fundraising team

HOW TO APPLY:

To apply, please email your CV and cover letter to guinea@wildchimps.org (Copy to boesch@eva.mpg.de and gotanegre@wildchimps.org) By the 21th of JULY 2021.

Please mention the position name in the subject line of the email.

In case you do not hear from us within two weeks after the closing date, this means that your application was not successful.

We thank you for your interest in working for WCF.

For more information or questions, do not hesitate the Human Resources Director of WCF (hboesch@wildchimps.org)